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WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 25, 1917.

U. S. ASSUMES CONTROL OF EASTERN RAILROADS TO AVERT WAR CRISIS

Food Shortage and Handicap Placed on Muni- Fontaine Aflame and Bourlon tions Supply Causes Most Drastic Step in Railway History.

ROADS EAST OF CHICAGO TO RUN AS UNIT REGARDLESS OF OWNERSHIP Germans Resisting Desperately

Vice Presidents Appointed by "Railroads' War Board" to Operate All Lines Involved by Emergency Demand-Will Expedite Movement of Fuel, Edibles and Materials Necessary to Whip Huns.

The railroads' war board last night announced the most drastic step yet taken in the history of railroading on the American con- dicated the probability that Gen. Byng's tinent, to meet the tremendous emergency demands of war-time troops had wrested possession of the

The board directed that "all available facilities on all railroads Moeuvres. The village of Fontaine, east of Chicago be pooled to the extent necessary to furnish maximum freight movement."

The operation of the roads, the war board states, will be "entirely regardless of their ownership and individual interests." A statement from the board continues:

"The operating vice presidents of the eastern lines have been appointed a committee to operate as a unit all lines involved and have been given instructions and authority to adopt all measures which to-west front. Gen. Byng's evident inin their judgment may be necessary to relieve the present situa- Hindenburg line, breached in Tuesday's tion and assure the maximum amount of transportation."

Board Holds Conferences

by Dr. H. A. Garfield, fuel adminis

gestion is most acute all freight that

ALMOST CAUSE TRAGEDY

tucky; Infected With Tetanus

neans, if the order is carried out "Further enterprise involving large iterally, and there is every expectation the use of coal and other than the coal and other heavy commodities should not be established in that territory, except after full consideration of these conditions. literally, and there is every expectation will be operating virtually as a unit in full consideration of these con "An important part of freight carriage, directed by a war board direct touch with the government, ervised by a group of the foremore

"An important part of the plar adopted for the operation of the east-ern lines is that of placing at their disposal the facilities of railways in other territories to such extent as may be necessary be necessary.
"It is a generally recognized fact that The immediate effect of this action of reatest interest to the average citizen nd foods. The shortage of anthracite m, has become serious within the mast w days. Within forty-eight hours the spartment of Justice has been called her by its special agent in Cleveland investigate alleged tying up of som-gaments of food there, much of which mestated of perishable products spoiling the cars or being nipped by the frost.

of even greater effect, so far as the nment is concerned, will be the aid

lack of cars to convey raw materials needed in manufacture.

In taking this step the railroads' war board acts in its capacity of a volunteer agency through which the railroads are seeking to co-operate with the government in the face of war-time exigencies. W. S. Gifford of the Council of National Defense, in an interview with newspaper men Friday, pointed to the railroads' board as the best example of the sort of organization for co-operation it is hoped will be formed by all major industries of the country.

It was recalled last night that Mr. Gifford significantly stated "great things are hoped for from the appointment of Daniel Willard as chairman of the war industries board of the Council of National Defense." Mr. Gifford said Mr. Willard would retain the chairmanship of the advisory commission of the council, and also the chairmanship of the committee on transportation and communication of the council.

Consults Board Members.

Consults Board Members.

Since Mr. Willard's appointment succeed Frank A. Scott at the head of the congestion is relieved. the war industries board early last week, he has been in consultation with members of the railroads' war board, from which he resigned, however, as asked to arrange for supplying the vaasked to arrange for supplying the variance from which he resigned, however, as an ex-officio member. It was assumed last night Mr. Willard had found one of the chief factors of the problems confronting the prosecution of war intustries to be transportation. Therefore he may have had a part in the movement to bring the railroads into even closer co-operation with the war industries board and other committees of the Council of National Defense by the revolutionary move announced by the railroad men.

Whatever may have been Mr. Willard's activity, the railroads' war board for some time has been studying the increasing congestion on eastern

lard's activity, the railroads' war board for some time has been studying the increasing congestion on eastern the increasing congestion on easter lines. In this section the roads ha become overburdened by growing industrial activity. As a part of the program for relieving conditions it has addressed a letter to the fuel administration, which makes the following recommendations:

Shortens Rail Haul.

"That a survey be made by the fuel administration of present contracts and Sent From Washington Into Kenmethods of purchase and shipment of methods of purchase and shipment of coal so as to shorten the rail haul from mine to consumer and to eliminate as far as possible all cross hauls of coal."

"Pooling of coal within reasonable limits," the war board said, "will without doubt produce additional large savings, and the railroads are prepared to co-operate in any measures pursued by the fuel administration to that end."

BRITISH ARE GRIMLY FIGHTING FORWARD IN CAMBRAI REGION

Wood Probably Taken by Gen. Byng's Forces.

MOEUVRES IS CLOSELY INVESTED, IS REPORT

English Try to Drive Behind Main Hindenburg Line.

Hard fighting continued in the battle of Cambrai Saturday, with the British pushing determinedly northward on the Fontaine-Queant line, west of Cambrai. Unofficial reports late in the day inhotly disputed Bourlon wood from the Germans and had closely invested less than three miles from Cambrai, was reported in flames, suggesting the probability of an impending German retire

Resisting Desperately.

The Germans are resisting desperate ly the British advance, which is being pressed most energetically on this east tention is to drive in behind the main surprise attack, and the Queant-Dro his encircling movement of Cambrai to the north and east. The British have of Moeuvres, however, and are hammer ing at Inchy, which the Germans a

ation Monday. Representatives of the eastern lines and of the government attended. Yesterday a meeting was held the Passchendaele sector."

Bourlon Wood Taken.

United States shipping board; Robert

S. Lovett of the priorities committee
and Commissioner Edgar E. Clark of
the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The measures which the railroads'
war board and the committee of operation in give presidents will put into effect at once are outlined thus:

"All open-top cars of all eastern roads and similar cars of private ownership which are at home on eastern in lines will be pooled on an equitable plan, distribution under the pool to be made pro rata on the basis of the made pro rata on the basis of the formation from this place was that it was ablaze.

By the Associated Press.

B RITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, November 24.—Bourlon wood, which dominates Cambral from the sanguinary struggle waged yesterday on its slopes. Bourlon village, at the northwest fringe of the forest, was still held by the Germans, who fought bitterly all day against the advancing troops. The enemy also retained his hold on the village of Fontaine, about which intense fighting proceded throughout Friday.

The later of the priorities committee and Commission.

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The Associated Press.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, November 24.—Bourlon wood, which dominates Cambral for the west, is probably in British hands this morning as a result of the sanguinary struggle waged yesterday on its slopes.

Bourlon village, at the northwest fringe of the forest, was still held by the Germans, who fought bitterly all day against the advancing troops. The enemy also retained his hold on the village of Fontaine, about which intense figure and the proposed of the sanguinary struggle waged yesterday on its slopes.

But TISH HEA tonnage-carrying capacity of the-equipment in the pool. The car pool should be administered under the direction of the car service commission.

Will Divert Congestion.

"The commission on car service will divert from those lines where the congestion is most acute all freight that

Prisoners Still Coming Back.

can be handled by any open route until the congestion is relieved.

"The pooling of coal will be further extended wherever practicable.

"The national fuel administration is asked to arrange for supplying the various coal markets from the nearest coal mines, in order to avoid waste of car efficiency.

"Any order that preference be given to any class of cars or freight results in a slowing down of the operation of the transportation machine. A constant flow of all traffic concurrently produces the best [transportation results. The war board, therefore, emphasizes the desirability of reducing the great volume of preference orders, which, by placing a substantial majority of the freight moved on the same plane, defeats its own object."

Prisoners Still Coming Back.

Prisoners Still Coming back this morning. The correspondent passed two squadrons of mud-smeared Germans near the British front who were being brought back to the cages.

The fighting yesterday at Bourlen wood and around Fontaine was of a most desperate nature. Bourlon wood and the village age situated on high ground, which afforts extensive observation in all directions. The forest itself comprises 500 acres, and, while the ground is dry, it is covered with a heavy undergrowth, making an advance up the slopes difficult. The British troops yesterday at Bourlen wood and the village age situated on high ground, which afforts extensive observation in all directions. The forest itself comprises 500 acres, and, while the ground, which afforts extensive observation in all directions. The forest itself comprises 500 acres, and, while the ground, wh

tremendous concentration of machine guns.

The infantry, co-operating with the tanks, pushed forward in the morning, and hard fighting ensued immediately. By I o'clock in the afternoon they had battled forward half way through the wood, and two hours later the infantry were occupying a line through the center of the wood and to the northwest of Fontaine.

Fight With Bayonets.

At noon the Germans began putting heavy artillery and machine gun barrage along the roads to the south of the wood for as possible all cross hauls of coal."

"Pooling of coal within reasonable limits," the war board said, "will without doubt produce additional large savings, and the railroads are prepared to co-operate in any measures pursued by the fuel administration to the end."

"The timmediate measures be adopted to transfer movement of foodstuffs and other export material to southern and gulf ports to as large a degree as compatible with public interest, in order to relieve the eastern congested teators of an equivalent amount of "That immediate survey be made of all government requirements now evolving the movement of foodstuffs and other export materials in and manufactured product out of centers of industry, so that accumulations on cars and line and in terminals will not occur as now, while occurs of the concentration in certain parts of castern territory of vast government says:

Overtaxed Bail Capacity.

"The concentration in certain parts of sastern territory of vast government and industrial activities has overtaxed the capacity of rail lines in that territory considering the heavy movement of cost of the points of the company declaring that the points had been also assess where the points had been administrated to hysicians who had used the vaccine to maintain themselves in the value of the points and developed, resulting in cases where the points had been and industrial activities has overtaxed the capacity of rail lines in that territory, considering the heavy movement of c rendering communication with the advancing troops more difficult. Hand-to



GOMPERS PLEDGES LABOR'S AID IN WAR

American Federation Head Asserts Workers Are in Conflict to End-Scout Strikes.

ONLY DEFEATED

BUFFALO, N. Y., November 24.-Sam Federation of Labor for thirty-five years

hands off.

It was further said the unions lined against Gompers on the indorsement of his war policies early in the convention today divided, the majority voting for Lennon. The vote for treasurer stood:
Tobin, 13,476; Lennon, 9,102. Tokin drawing his strength principally from the teamsters, machinists, miners, carpenters, bridge and structural iron and brewery workers.

Not a Pacifist.

To make his position clear, Mr. Tobin, in accepting office, declared there was no "pacifism and antism" in him.
"Since war was declared." Mr. Tobin said, "I have tried to carry out the wishes of President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor and of President Wilson of the United States. I want no misunderstanding as to my position. With thousands of men in our union, there has not been one strike. We have there has not been one strike. We had not crippled industry during the war. We have been fighting an enemy from who we may expect no mercy if he is vi

tory of the labor movement and of the world."

"No liberty-loving man," he said, "would ask or seek peace now until the purpose for which the United States entered the conflict had been accomplished. We have declared ourselves in the fight to the end for freedom and democracy; there is no doubt where union labor stands."

There were a few scattering votes against Mr. Gompers and one against Frank Morrison for secretary.

It was found impossible to complete the work of the convention today and a night session was called at which it was hoped to clear the calendar and adjorn sine die. Next year's convention will be held at St. Paul in June. Mr. Gompers, it was announced, will visit Toronto next week as the guest of Premier Hearst.

Demand New Bomb Triels

Demand New Bomb Trials.

The convention tonight adopted unanimously a resolution demanding new trials for Warren H. Billings and Thomas J. Mooney, convicted of mur-der resulting from the San Francisco The investigating committee on labor

conditions reported to the convention ce roofs and windows of the houses. About 3:30 in the afternoon tanks rere reported to have forced an enrance and the place was said to be in fames. The Germans were able to take traces in the village, to the committee declared housing probably of the ment is widespread in several trades. The Cermans were able to take traces in the village, to the committee declared housing probably of the ment is widespread in several trades. The Cermans were able to take traces in the village, to the committee declared housing probably of the ment is widespread in several trades. The Cerman is cities where new industries have sprung up have not been properly dealt with. This they said was responsible for much of the apparent dearth of labor. Seventy-five per cent of the particular of the committee exact the stroyed 135 German airplanes ever the German lines, which destruction has been fully confirmed. These also were 513 others over the German lines, which destruction has been fully confirmed. There also were 513 others over the German lines, which destruction has been fully confirmed. There also were 513 others over the German lines, which destruction has been fully confirmed. There also were 513 others over the German lines, which destruction has been fully confirmed. There also were 513 others over the German lines, which destruction of the stroyed but confirmation of the investigators reported in Dieppe.

(Continued on Second Pars.) there is no labor shortage. On the con-

Police Arrest Italian; Bomb Explodes in Station; 11 Die this sector. On the contrary, the Italians have been counter attacking heavily, al-

IS SHOR

Tragedy Follows Capture of Latin in Basement of Milwaukee Church--Explosion Shatters Building, Injures Many.

GAS MASK WAR WORK

MILWAUKEE, Wis., November 24.—Eleven persons are known to have been killed, a number injured and several believed to be missing as a result of a bomb explosion in the central police station

The bomb was taken to the station by an Italian, who said he discovered it in the basement of the Madonia del Pompeii Catholic Church, in the Italian district.

The Italian was met near the station by Detective Bart Maloney. Maloney, escorting him into the station, placed the bomb, which was inclosed in a black box, on a table in the waiting room while he took the man into the office of Police Lieut. Flood.

Box Suddenly Explodes.

to roll call. When they came down out the structure was broken by the shock. It is believed many of the pris

oners may have perished.

Among the known dead are:
Detective Stephen H. Stecker.

Detective Stephen H. Stecker.
Detective John Beehawer.
Detective Fred Kaiser.
Detective Albert Templin.
Operator Spindler.
Henry Deckert, desk sergeant.
Catherine Walker.
Among the seriously injured are:
Detective Fred Hartman.
Detective Bergen.

Held Small Bottle. Lieut, Flood, in charge of the station

been arrested in a dragnet which has

been thrown into the third ward for all suspicious characters.

Police officials refuse to comment on Police officials refuse to comment on the arrests.

What the police think may be the real story of the tragedy was told to the police by Miss Maude Richter, a social settlement worker in the Italian district.

"The whole truth must be very plain to those who are familiar with well known police facts," said Miss Richter.

"The Italian anarchists were to answer in court next Wednesday to answer charges growing out of the Bayview rlots a few weeks ago. This was the last chance they would get at those they hated for causing their arrests.

"There was to be a meeting of the Italian Evangelical Church tonight. Rev. August Juliana, the missionary who conducted the Bayview meetings, was to have had charge of it. The bomb was to kill him. The anarchists hated him. It was timed to explode when the meeting would be best attended."

Ralph Izzard, special agent of the De-Lieut. Flood, in charge of the station at night, escaped.

According to one of the detectives, the bomb was a cylinder shaped affair, about 1 foot in length and 8 inches in diameter. Inserted in the top was a small bottle of liquid, supposedly nitroglycerin.

The explosion, which was heard throughout the main section of the city, brought thousands of persons to the scene. Firemen from a station near by aided in the work of rescue. Many of the bodies as they were taken from the building were removed to the county jail, which is just across the street from the police station. From there they were taken to the morgue.

The dead and injured were scattered all over the squadroom.

Details of firemen were dispatched through the building. On the second story, just over the squadroom, where the police operators work, the body of Edward Spindler was found. He was killed at his post by a metal missie that came through from the floor be-

we may expect no merey it he is victorious. "We are trade unionists, but we are Americans first." Mr. Tobin's statement was greeted with cheers and there was another demonstration when President Gompers spoke, pledging his undivided loyalty and effort to the cause of men who toil "In the most crucial period in the history of the labor movement and of the world." Total Came through from the hoof be-paid watter an investigat U. S. Steamer Schuylkill Sunk; Forty of Crew Arrive Forty of Crew Arrive in Port

Torpedo Attack in Mediterranean Reported to Navy Department-No Armed Guard Aboard. Probably All Saved.

The American steamer Schuylkill has |

known here, but it is assumed that the forty men rescued constituted the Schuylkill's full complement.

1,030 GERMAN AEROS

FRENCH ACCOUNT FOR

FRENCH STEAMER MAINE SINKS WITH 25 MEN

Secretary Daniels made this announce

"The Navy Department is in receipt of advices that forty of the crew of the American steamer Schuylkill, which had been torpedoed, have been landed at a Mediterranean port. No Navy men were

Both German and Austrian submarines

PARIS, November 24.-News was re ceived today confirming reports that the Wednesday eight miles from Dieppe. All of the twenty-five officers and men on board were lost, with the exception of one sailor. The entire crew comprised sea

gross, was built in 1910 and was owned

FURIOUS BATTLES ON BRENTA RIVER STILL INDECISIVE WATER FRONT GUARD

Austro-German Armies, How- Neither Aliens Nor American ever, Have So Far Failed to Smash Italian Defenses.

GEN. DIAZ'S PIAVE LINE STILL REMAINS INTACT

Chances of Italians Holding Their Present Positions and Saving Venice Increase Hourly.

The Italian front is still holding firmly, although its defense is costing the water front will go under military gues Italians heavily in men. There were at midnight tonight to bar further efforts by the Austro-German enemies were announced last night by masses to break through to the west end the Department of Justice, acting us of the line between the Asiago plateau President Wilson's recent alien es and the Brenta, but Gen. Diaz's troops proclamation. Similar regulations successfully withstood these carefully be applied to other coast and lake p prepared thrusts. The Piave river re- as soon as soldiers are available. mains intact, and apparently the enemy's efforts to force it are no longer loaded rifles and will have instruc serious, although Rome today reports the to shoot all persons, aliens or citis preaking up by artillery fire of hostile entering the barred zone, one hund attempts to lay pontoons.

In the important mountain front beween the Brenta and the Piave the guards to be supplied by pier struggle is still a desperate one. No Blue uniforms will be worn by the further progress is claimed by Berlin in diers to distinguish them from hough, Berlin declares, without success

High military opinion, recently expressed, that the chances of the Italians holding the Piave line and saving Venice are increasing hourly, seen likely to be strengthened by the tor of the latest Italian official statements, by the Italians to the furious attempts being made by the enemy to pierce their northern front.

Contest Every Foot of Ground. By the Associated Press. ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS

NORTHERN ITALY, November 24. Heavy fighting continued throu

the official statement reads:
"Italian front—West of the Brents
and between the Branta and the Piave
Italian attacks failed."

NORTHCLIFFE'S BROTHER IS MADE AIR MINISTER

Baron Rothermore, Also a News paper Publisher, Picked for Important British Post.

LONDON, November 24.-Baron Rothermere, chief proprietor of the Daily Record and Mail of Glasgow and the Leeds Mercury, has accepted the post of air minister in the British cabinet according to the Pall Mall Gazette.

Baron Rothermere (Harold Sidney Harmsworth) is the younger brother of Viscount Northcliffe. He was born in Lord Northcliffe himself was offered the post as head of the air ministry a few days ago by Premier Lloyd George and in declining the position explained that his refusal was due to dissatisfaction with some of the methods of Mr. Lloyd George's administration.

Viscount Cowdray resigned as chairman of the air board owing to the British premier's offer of the air ministry to Northcliffe.

to Northeline.

Baron Rothermere was mentioned as possible food controller in 1914, but failed to receive the appointment.

BULGARS ARE DISPERSED IN MACEDONIA RAIDS

PARIS, November 24.-An official statement in regard to the Macedonia front says:

"Eastern Theater, November 23.-The enemy attempted on the British front several raids which were all dispersed before they reached our positions situation is quiet on the right bank of the Vardar and the Serbian front. North are operating in the Mediterranean, but so far as known the nationality of the submarine which sank the Schuylkill was not determined.

Of Monastir the artillery action was quantum intense. Our aviators have born not determined. of Monastir the artillery action was quite enemy establishments at Vashbareitsa, on the road to Prilep."

Read and Heed

Take the store announcements in this issue of The Star as your shopping guide and do your Christmas shopping

The best "buys" await the early shopper.

ORDERS TO SHOOT

FIVE CENTS

Citizens Allowed to Enter Zone Unless Identified.

OTHER PORTS SOON GET SIMILAR REGULATIONS

New Federal Rules Issued to Prevent Fires and Explosions. Alien Travel Licenses.

Regulations under which the New York

ger of accidental shooting of p

tion to report a robbery and was standing to get into the lieutenant's office, when the bomb exploded. The body of Detective Dave O'Brien lay in the center of the room. He was lying face downward, partially covered with debris. Detective Stecker's body was found near the entrance to the squadroom.

More Than Twenty-Five Arrested.

More than twenty-five Italians have hean arrested in a dragnet which has italian attacks failed."

More than twenty-five Italians have hean arrested in a dragnet which has italian attacks failed."

more fairly held by the defenders, and income and self-ted from the thousands of longshow manders and the main enemy pressure is concentrated between the Brenta and the Branta and the port New York is effective in Manhatta the official statement reads:

"Italian front—West of the Brenta and the Plave in the official statement reads:

"Italian attacks failed."

The Department of Justice adva notifying alien enemies not to pass be placed at frequent intervals. In case of street cars or railroads passing through the barred district, German will not be permitted to be about even for continuous passage. Any found within the sone for any result whatever will be arrested and probably interned for the period of the was ably interned for the period of the was to enter waterfront sones are revoked to neter waterfront sones are revoked. The restrictions, however, do not appear to public ferries.

"It is important," says the Department of Justice regulation, "that the patrolling be effective and yet to carried on in such a manner as will interfere as little as possible with his free movement of traffic to and from the wharves, and with the free operation of the wharves and other shipping facilities, for the speedy operation of the shipment of men and materials is Europe is of the utmost importance." ome sort of a line and that sig

Proposes System of Passes.

The system of identification by the and warehouse owners, the depart

ment's statement said, is not expe to accomplish a complete protection of shipping, and the department is es-gaged in planning a system of passes to supplement that of identification by inspectors. Meanwhile special passes will be issued to persons with authority to enter the zone.

Wharf operators will prepare & of employes and others entitled to mission to the restricted sones for spection and guidance of military

"Every operator of a water front for cility," says the department regulation "shall on or before December 1 file with the United States marshal writing a statement describing

writing a statement describing in system of fire patrol and fire prevention."

Effective steps to increase vigilaries at the bridges which enemies have been attempting to wreck and to summary measures which will assume the pridges, aqueducts, water fronts and all avenues of commerce and communication also are being taken by the government.

government.

As a result of experiences of the New York National Guard on duty at railroad pridges, aqueducts and canala.

Brig. den. Charles H. Sherrill, the adjutan general of the state of New York, was in conference yesterday with
officials on the plans for a more comprehensive system of guarding these
important places. It is understood that
the government authorities beartilyexpenses the work the New York is

180,000 Pledges in Connecticut. HARTFORD. Conn., November 24, Food pledges have been signed by about 180,000 persons in Connecticut during a fortnight's campaign directed by Fast Administrator Scoville, it was announced today by the state council of defense.